



Patent
Attorney Docket No. ITW7510.095

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : Schneider, Joseph C.
Serial No. : 10/711,029
Filed : 8/18/2004
For : PLASMA TORCH HAVING A QUICK-
CONNECT RETAINING CUP
Group Art No. : 3742
Examiner : Mark H. Paschall

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a) and 1.10

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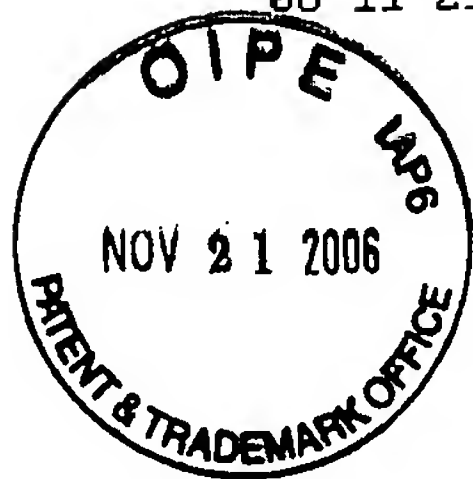
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**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT
OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Notice of Allowability mailed November 2, 2006, Applicant submits the following remarks responsive to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance.



U.S. Serial No. 10/711,029

REMARKS

In response to the Examiner's Reasons for Allowance, Applicant believes that a separate Statement of Reasons for Allowance is unnecessary in the present case as the file history sufficiently sets forth the patentable distinctions of claims 1-29.

The patentability of claims 1-29 lies in each claim as a whole. That is, a single particular element or feature of a claim does not define the claim's patentability, but rather, it is the combination of elements and the interconnection therebetween that define the invention. The claims cannot be considered to be limited in scope based on this brief statement by the Examiner. Applicant does not acquiesce to the accuracy of the Examiner's statements in the Reasons for Allowance nor the Examiner's partial paraphrasing of the claim elements. Likely for brevity, the Examiner only paraphrased claim 1. The limitations however paraphrased do not appear in the other independent claims. Those claims are independently allowable.

Applicant stands by its position previously set forth in the file history.

Entry of these remarks is appreciated and Applicant cordially invites the Examiner to respond, should the Examiner disagree.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Timothy J. Ziolkowski".

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Dated: 11/21/06
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